

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
ERDA-05 ACDA-07 OMB-01 NRC-05 /076 W
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R 121417Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO CNO WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4059
CINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK

S E C R E T OSLO 3224

FOR CNO FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EWWT, NO
SUBJECT: VISIT OF USS CALIFORNIA

REF: COMSUBLANT 291757Z JUN 77 (NOTAL)

1. WE HAVE JUST COMPLETED AN ENORMOUSLY SUCCESSFUL VISIT BY THE
USS CALIFORNIA (CGN 36) TO OSLO. THE LOCAL REACTION AMONG OUR POL-
ITICAL, MILITARY AND PUBLIC CONTACTS TO THIS IMPRESSIVE NUCLEAR
CRUISER WAS UNIFORMLY POSITIVE. DURING THE SHIP'S TWO DAYS IN OSLO,
WE WERE ABLE TO CONDUCT INVITATION-ONLY TOURS TO OVER 500 PERSONS.
THESE INCLUDED SOME OF OUR KEY CONTACTS IN THE NORWEGIAN POLITICAL
AND MILITARY COMMUNITY. IN ADDITION, WE WERE ABLE TO USE SEVERAL
LUNCHEES AND DINNERS ABOARD THE SHIP AS A MEANS TO GIVE OTHER KEY
CONTACTS AN INTENSE EXPOSURE TO THE MODERN US NAVY. ADMIRAL DIXON
GAVE
A SPLENDID PRESS CONFERENCE ON BOARD WHICH HELPED TO BROADEN FURTHER
THE OVERALL PUBLIC IMPACT OF THE VISIT.

2. WITH THE VISIT OF THE CALIFORNIA TO OSLO, WE HAVE TO A VERY
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LARGE EXTENT SUCCEEDED IN ONE OF OUR ONGOING OBJECTIVES IN
NORWAY--TO REGULARIZE AND GRADUALLY INCREASE THE PUBLIC VISIBILITY
OF US NPW VISITS TO NORWEGIAN PORTS. WE HAVE COME A LONG WAY
FROM THE TIME SEVERAL YEARS AGO WHEN US NPW VISITS TO NORWAY
WERE GREETED WITH HOSTILE DEMONSTRATIONS AND VEHEMENT DENUNCIATIONS
IN THE LEFTIST PRESS. BUT I BELIEVE WE CAN DO MORE.

3. THE VISIT OF THE CALIFORNIA COULD HAVE BEEN EVEN MORE SUCCESSFUL, I BELIEVE, IF USG REGULATIONS HAD PERMITTED US TO ACCEPT THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT'S OFFER TO ALLOW THE SHIP TO MOOR ALONGSIDE A COMMERCIAL PIER IN DOWNTOWN OSLO, WHICH WOULD HAVE GIVEN THE VISIT MUCH MORE VISIBILITY AND ALLOWED FOR GREATER PUBLIC VIEWING OF THE SHIP. REGRETFULLY, EXISTING USG REGULATIONS REQUIRED US TO DECLINE THE OFFER. AS IT WAS, THE CALIFORNIA WAS ANCHORED SOME 2 MILES SOUTH OF THE CITY IN A PLACE WHERE IT WAS ESSENTIALLY INVISIBLE TO THE POPULATION OF OSLO. THIS IS TOO BAD, FOR IT IS ONE OF OUR OBJECTIVES TO GRADUALLY MAKE IT CLEAR TO THE NORWEGIAN POPULATION AT LARGE THAT ONE OF THE OBLIGATIONS OF BEING A MEMBER OF NATO IS TO AGREE TO AND ACCEPT PORT CALLS BY THE MODERN NUCLEAR-POWERED US NAVY.

4. I RECOGNIZE THAT THE US NAVY ALONE CANNOT CHANGE OUR GOVERNMENT'S REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE RESTRICTIONS ON MOORING NUCLEAR-POWERED WARSHIPS ALONGSIDE IN OSLO. NONETHELESS, I AM CONVINCED THAT IF A WAY COULD BE FOUND TO MODIFY OUR SELF-IMPOSED RESTRICTIONS, WE COULD SUBSTANTIALLY ENHANCE THE PUBLIC RELATIONS VALUE OF FUTURE NPW VISITS TO OSLO AND OTHER PORTS IN NORWAY. WE BELIEVE THAT ADEQUATE SECURITY COULD BE PROVIDED FOR ALONGSIDE VISITS AND IT APPEARS FROM OUR EXPERIENCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA VISITS THAT COUNTER-DEMONSTRATIONS OR RELATED PROBLEMS CAN BE KEPT TO A MINIMUM. WE WOULD OBVIOUSLY APPRECIATE ANY HELP YOU COULD GIVE PERSONALLY IN SEEING IF ANYTHING CAN BE DONE TO MODIFY OUR REGULATIONS.

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5. ON A MORE PERSONAL NOTE FRANCIE AND I WERE DELIGHTED TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET YOU AND MRS. HOLLOWAY DURING YOUR RECENT VISIT TO OSLO. I UNDERSTAND FROM ADMIRAL HERLOFSON THAT THE REST OF YOUR VISIT TO NORWAY WAS, FROM HIS POINT OF VIEW, A SMASHING SUCCESS.

6. WARM REGARDS.
BREMER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY VISITS, NAVAL SHIPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Errors: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770767/aaaacfym.tel
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Original Classification: SECRET
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF USS CALIFORNIA
TAGS: EWWT, NO
To: CNO
Type: TE
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